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**Chapter 1 UbD/DI**

I have learned that to make a difference I must think of the students first. To do that I have to also think of how the learning environment will affect them, how well I teach Social Studies as well as finding creative ways to teach a variety of different learners. To do this I must come up with different activities that keep each of the students’ attention. One thing that will impact my class in a big way is the proficiency of the students in a certain subject area. Some students would like a challenge; while others may want to take a step back and learn the fundamentals first. This is when I need to create an opportunity, perhaps a project, which allows each student to work at their own skill level. I must also assist the students that need more help by setting up a study group as an option to help learn more of the content at their own pace.

I have also learned that teaching is a learning process in itself. To be able to help students I must learn what works best for them as a learning tool. I must also use the tools in a way that will help the student grow and give them a better understanding of Social Studies. UbD and DI will help me combine what I am teaching and using the right process to get my content information through to a student in an enjoyable way that will make the student want to learn more. In doing this my students will be excited about coming back to my class and learning more.

**Chapter 2 UbD/DI**

I have learned that there are a variety of ways that a teacher must present their content. I have also learned that the way that a teacher presents their lesson will depend on the learning barriers a student has. Some of these barriers can include their interests, a learning disability, language, or even how much adult support a student must have. This will impact me and my classroom because I have to come up with a lesson every day that will help students connect with how they will learn. This will also impact me because each class I teach will be a learning experience. I must be able to teach in a style that makes each of my students comfortable to learn. This is more narrowed in on who the students are and what they need for learning.

I have also learned that in order to reach all of my students’ needs I must learn to be a flexible teacher who can teach in a variety of ways. This will impact me because this is when I will have to get to know each student to find out what situations they are in both inside of school and outside of school. Getting to know the students will change the way that they are treated and in the end if I can find what works best for them in each of their learning situations I will be able to impact their life as well. To find the best way for the students to learn I will also have to teach in multiple ways and get feedback on what method each student enjoys the most.

**UbD/DI Chapter 3**

As a teacher I have to be aware of what the requirements for the classes I teach are. I also have to determine if some of the standards that I have will not be relevant because they are too large or too small to teach in the amount of time that I will have in a certain class. I also have to determine what will be an acceptable way to test a student’s knowledge. I have learned that I can plan all of this out on something called the backward design. This will affect my classroom because it will give structure to the class while also giving students in my class the chance to explore their own learning abilities. This will affect me because it will give me a guideline to what I should be teaching as well as give me an idea of things that I should change for the next year if my plan did not work.

It is also important that I determine ahead of time in what way I should gauge the knowledge that the students have learned from my lessons. In Social Studies I could either decide to give a multiple choice assessment, a written assessment, or ask the students to give a presentation. This will affect me because I must make the decision on how to correctly assess my students and make sure that they carry the knowledge with them to their years ahead of them. This will affect my students because some of them may be good at taking test while others will excel in creative assessments such as projects.

**UbD Chapter 4**

To be a responsive and effective teacher I must know the needs of all of my students. I must also be flexible and not give up on a student that is struggling with a certain concept in my content. This will affect my classroom because I must find levels of work that reach all students however I cannot give some students more than others. I will have to learn how to balance what content I should teach with what level I should teach the content at and help the students that are struggling as well. I have learned that for the more advanced students I should give them an assignment that extends their knowledge and challenges them at the same time. I have also learned that no matter the level of skill each stage should take up the same amount of time for each student.

Something that I thought was interesting, and I thought would benefit my class would be once I give a student a project or put them in a group that I believe matches their readiness level I would have everyone share what they have learned from the assignment. By doing this I would gauge their knowledge of the topic at the end and let students see what their peers have done for work. I have learned that if I put students in groups I could go around and help the groups that aren’t quite getting it. This would affect me because I would learn how to be an active person in a student’s life, and I could learn to adjust the way I teach if something is not working the way I thought it would.

**UbD Chapter 5**

This chapter is about the importance of how to determine which assessments are acceptable to help students learn the content. It describes the three types of assessments which are summative assessments, diagnostic assessments and formative assessments. The book explains that they are all important, but as a teacher you need to know when it is appropriate to use each one. This would affect me because I need to know if some of my students have test anxiety or if they are better at showing what they learned by taking a test. I would also benefit as a teacher if I made students take pre-tests before I teach the content. This will benefit me because I will be able to determine if I need to teach at a more advanced level at that topic or a more remedial level.

Other reasons why assessments would be useful to me is to determine if the students understood the content that I have just taught. Another way that I must consider assessments is to determine if it should be in the form of a test or in the form of a project. I also have to determine what work will engage learning and make the student think. One of the things that I could do to is how do themes in the past relate to today. If I understand what my students strengths are I will be able to determine when or what their assessment should be. To determine what my students strengths are I can give them assessments on what they think the best way to learn is. It is also important for students to give me feedback as a teacher so I can keep learning what will be best for my class.